

Program Legislative Budget

The following table summarizes the proposed budget for this program by year, type of expenditure, and source of funding.

Program Legislative Budget								
Budget Item	Base Budget Fiscal 2006	PL Base Adjustment Fiscal 2008	New Proposals Fiscal 2008	Total Leg. Budget Fiscal 2008	PL Base Adjustment Fiscal 2009	New Proposals Fiscal 2009	Total Leg. Budget Fiscal 2009	Total Leg. Budget Fiscal 08-09
FTE	453.80	0.00	0.00	453.80	0.00	0.00	453.80	453.80
Personal Services	18,794,817	2,284,231	0	21,079,048	2,360,078	0	21,154,895	42,233,943
Operating Expenses	5,369,298	487,786	92,980	5,950,064	553,532	66,980	5,989,810	11,939,874
Equipment	44,506	0	0	44,506	0	0	44,506	89,012
Capital Outlay	53,007	0	0	53,007	0	0	53,007	106,014
Grants	18,836,204	122,250	200,000	19,158,454	122,250	200,000	19,158,454	38,316,908
Benefits & Claims	155,391,482	18,635,663	7,036,745	181,063,890	28,515,985	3,496,745	187,404,212	368,468,102
Debt Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Costs	\$198,489,314	\$21,529,930	\$7,329,725	\$227,348,969	\$31,551,845	\$3,763,725	\$233,804,884	\$461,153,853
General Fund	26,272,234	3,257,095	1,400,017	30,929,346	4,037,108	415,120	30,724,462	61,653,808
State/Other Special	997,726	298,422	99,983	1,396,131	298,700	104,543	1,400,969	2,797,100
Federal Special	171,219,354	17,974,413	5,829,725	195,023,492	27,216,037	3,244,062	201,679,453	396,702,945
Total Funds	\$198,489,314	\$21,529,930	\$7,329,725	\$227,348,969	\$31,551,845	\$3,763,725	\$233,804,884	\$461,153,853

Page Reference

Legislative Budget Analysis, B-19

Funding

The Human and Community Service Division (HCSD) is supported primarily by federal funds, which comprise 86 percent of the total funding. General fund provides 13 percent of the division’s funding. General fund support is primarily used to achieve required TANF and child care MOE requirements and match federal programs such as Medicaid and food stamp eligibility determination, and child care benefits. State special revenue is comprised of the preservation and stabilization fund, I-149 funds, and the Universal Systems Benefits fund on energy and weatherization.

Program Narrative

The biennial budget addressed by this bill is lower than the executive biennial budget by \$2.7 million due to reductions in: 1) TANF benefits of \$1.7 million in federal TANF block grant funds to adjust for revised, lower estimates in the TANF caseload; 2) the executive’s low-income energy assistance request of \$1.0 million general fund; and 3) State Motor Pool rates of about \$9,500.

This bill supports the division's presentation of its goals and measurable objectives and addresses:

- Present law federal funding support of \$32 million for the Food Stamp Program, \$5.4 million for the Low-income Energy Assistance Program and weatherization projects, \$1.0 million for the Child and Adult Food Care Program, and a \$4 million TANF block grant transfer to child care, in addition to general fund support of \$4.2 million in support of child care rates, Federal Poverty Index adjustments, and caseload
- New proposals of: 1) \$3.7 million in federal funds and \$0.6 million general fund to support energy assistance, weatherization, ombudsman support, and housing; 2) \$6.4 million of federal TANF block grant funds to support child care for working relatives, TANF cash assistance, and a restructuring of the Blackfeet Tribal TANF plan; and 3) \$0.4 million general fund for individual development account savings programs
- Components in the division goals and objectives that speak to the future of the TANF block grant and public assistance, TANF work support and anti-poverty efforts, early child hood services, statewide support for energy assistance, weatherization projects, housing programs, and food care and commodities distribution

The bill includes language requesting that the division report its progress toward the goals and objectives throughout the interim.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

One of the largest programs administered by the division is the TANF program. TANF funds are used to support a number of programs and spending initiatives that are consistent with federal guidelines on the use of these funds.

TANF funding in this bill remains the same as the Governor’s budget. However the bill reassigns \$504,436 in federal funds from the TANF block grant category of Accelerated Employment Services to a Work Training Program. The TANF block grant remains the same. There is further discussion in the new proposal section. Figure ____ shows the status of the TANF block grant. The figure shows a deficit position of \$477,744 in FY 2011, which represents a decrease from a November 2006 projected deficit of \$3.0 million and a January 2007 projected deficit of \$1.1 million. The change is due to a decrease in the TANF case load and related expenditures. The case load has declined from 3,643 in July 2006 to 3,140 in February 2007.

Figure
Summary of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant
Fiscal 2006 Through 2011
Items in bold print reflect appropriations contained in HB 820.

	Actual	Dept. Est.	Requested	Requested	Projected	Projected
State Fiscal Year	SFY 2006	SFY 2007	SFY 2008	SFY 2009	SFY 2010	SFY 2011
Actual/Projected Balance of Grant	\$29,916,399	\$34,181,963	\$29,778,243	\$22,740,414	\$14,984,719	\$7,247,151
Grant Amount	40,669,944	39,171,817	39,171,817	38,039,116	38,039,116	38,039,116
Beginning Balance	\$70,586,343	\$73,353,780	\$68,950,060	\$60,779,530	53,023,835	45,286,267
Expenditures:						
Cash Assistance including NP 20020	\$17,275,019	\$16,082,428	\$19,168,992	\$19,168,992	\$19,168,992	\$19,168,992
Benefits with Child Support Passthrough	615,795	615,795	615,795	615,795	615,795	615,795
Total Benefits	\$17,890,814	\$16,698,223	\$19,784,787	\$19,784,787	\$19,784,787	\$19,784,787
Indirect Program 02 - HCSO	\$2,558,214	\$2,634,960	\$2,714,009	\$2,804,279	\$2,888,407	\$2,975,059
Indirect Program 03 - CFSO	1,383,969	1,425,488	1,468,253	1,512,300	1,557,669	1,604,399
Indirect Program 04- Director's Office	155,065	159,717	164,508	169,444	174,527	179,763
Indirect Program 06- Fiscal	311,406	320,748	330,371	340,282	350,490	361,005
Indirect Program 08 - QAD	71,585	73,733	75,945	78,223	80,570	82,987
Program 09 and 02 Systems - TEAMS	1,545,053	1,091,405	1,124,147	1,157,871	1,192,607	1,228,385
program 09 and 03 Systems - CAPS	<u>205,805</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>
Total cost allocation	\$6,231,097	\$5,936,051	\$6,107,232	\$6,292,399	\$6,474,271	\$6,661,598
Other TANF uses:						
Blackfeet benefit - NP 20023	0	513,278	684,370	684,370	684,370	684,370
Blackfeet Tribal New contract - NP 20023		225,400	450,800	450,800	450,800	450,800
Direct Admin	\$11,599	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
LIEAP	0	0	0	0	0	0
TANF System in statewide IT proposal	0	0	2,600,000	2,200,000	2,000,000	1,800,000
CHIMES COSTS	0	1,900,000	0	0	0	0
SFY 2006 High-Performance Bonus Expenditure:	13,479	2,063,221	200,000	0	0	0
Special Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0
Work Operator and OPA Improvements	114,569	385,431	0	0	0	0
TANF WorC Contracts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Care/Caretaker Relatives NP 20006	0	0	683,784	683,784	683,784	683,784
Adult Basic Education	125,000	125,000	0	0	0	0
Supportive Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abstinence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Banks	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Work Participation and Supports	940,036	1,850,000	1,850,000	1,850,000	1,850,000	1,850,000
Achievement Awards (WSP)	688,908	835,000	835,000	835,000	835,000	835,000
Accelerated Employment Services - NP 20910	301,208	534,698	504,436	504,436	504,436	504,436
Low-Income Housing	199,282	0	0	0	0	0
Individual Development Accounts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerg Assist & Prg 03 Foster Care Benefits	<u>2,353,874</u>	<u>2,360,000</u>	<u>2,360,000</u>	<u>2,360,000</u>	<u>2,360,000</u>	<u>2,360,000</u>
Total other TANF uses	\$4,847,955	\$10,892,028	\$10,268,390	\$9,668,390	\$9,468,390	\$9,268,390
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$28,969,866	\$33,526,301	\$36,160,409	\$35,745,576	\$35,727,448	\$35,714,775
Transfers:						
Child Care Transfers - includes DP 20012	\$5,436,288	\$8,051,010	\$8,051,010	\$8,051,010	\$8,051,010	\$8,051,010
Title XX / Child and Family Services	1,998,226	1,998,226	1,998,226	1,998,226	1,998,226	1,998,226
	\$7,434,514	\$10,049,236	\$10,049,236	\$10,049,236	\$10,049,236	\$10,049,236
Expenditures and Transfers	\$36,404,380	\$43,575,537	\$46,209,645	\$45,794,812	\$45,776,684	\$45,764,011
Ending Balance	<u>\$34,181,963</u>	<u>\$29,778,243</u>	<u>\$22,740,414</u>	<u>\$14,984,719</u>	<u>\$7,247,151</u>	<u>(\$477,744)</u>

Present Law Adjustments

The “Present Law Adjustments” table shows the primary changes to the proposed adjusted base budget. “Statewide Present Law” adjustments are standard categories of adjustments made to all agencies. Decisions on these items were applied globally to all agencies, unless otherwise noted. The other numbered adjustments in the table correspond to the narrative descriptions.

Present Law Adjustments	-----Fiscal 2008-----					-----Fiscal 2009-----				
	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
Personal Services					3,159,373					3,238,409
Vacancy Savings					(878,142)					(881,331)
Inflation/Deflation					96,886					101,111
Fixed Costs					(130,068)					(129,861)
Total Statewide Present Law Adjustments					\$2,248,049					\$2,328,328
DP 6015 - State Motor Pool Rate Change	0.00	(1,769)	0	(2,930)	(4,699)	0.00	(1,825)	0	(3,023)	(4,848)
DP 20005 - Intergovernmental Human Services Bureau PL Adj	0.00	0	237,624	2,682,021	2,919,645	0.00	0	237,624	2,682,021	2,919,645
DP 20008 - HCSD Rental Increases for Adm. and County OPA's	0.00	189,272	0	219,433	408,705	0.00	218,089	0	252,079	470,168
DP 20009 - Child & Adult Care Food Program Historical PL	0.00	0	0	400,000	400,000	0.00	0	0	606,000	606,000
DP 20012 - Child Care Discretionary Present Law Adj	0.00	0	0	2,006,171	2,006,171	0.00	0	0	2,006,171	2,006,171
DP 20016 - Child Care FPI, Market Rate, Caseload Increase	0.00	1,741,650	0	0	1,741,650	0.00	2,428,000	0	0	2,428,000
DP 20019 - Food Stamp Benefits	0.00	0	0	11,810,409	11,810,409	0.00	0	0	20,798,381	20,798,381
Total Other Present Law Adjustments	0.00	\$1,929,153	\$237,624	\$17,115,104	\$19,281,881	0.00	\$2,644,264	\$237,624	\$26,341,629	\$29,223,517
Grand Total All Present Law Adjustments					\$21,529,930					\$31,551,845

DP 6015 - State Motor Pool Rate Change - The funding for vehicle rentals and leases from the State Motor Pool were reduced from the level requested by the Governor.

DP 20005 - Intergovernmental Human Services Bureau PL Adj - The bill provides spending authority of \$5.4 million federal revenue over the biennium to accommodate an increase in federal grant funds and just under \$0.5 million for an increase in the state special revenue universal systems benefits fund, which comes from consumer charges on utility bills and is passed on to energy assistance and weatherization activities.

The increase includes authority for truck driver overtime of \$3,000 each year to cover delivery to senior centers and food banks in remote parts of the state, increases the average household benefits of approximately \$102 over the base, and for statewide Human Resource Development Council’s (HRDC’s) provide: 1) low-income persons with energy assistance, weatherization, and emergency shelter; 2) housing assistance for persons with AIDS; 3) commodity food distribution; and 4) work on local solutions to problems of poverty.

DP 20008 - HCSD Rental Increases for Adm. and County OPA's - The bill provides cost allocated spending authority of \$400,000 general fund and \$472,000 federal revenue associated with rent increases in the Offices of Public Assistance (OPA) and HCSD administration in non-Department of Administration for buildings.

DP 20009 - Child & Adult Care Food Program Historical PL - The bill adds \$1.0 million federal funds over the biennium for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), to address the anticipated, historical increase of 2.4 percent in program reimbursement rates as set by the Department of Agriculture. CACFP is a federal USDA entitlement program to support nutritional services in care settings through regulation and reimbursement to adult and childcare organizations. The increased federal spending authority supports annual delivery of 7.7 million meals over the biennium to children in child care facilities.

DP 20012 - Child Care Discretionary Present Law Adj - The bill appropriates a \$4 million TANF block grant transfer over the biennium to the discretionary fund of the Child Care Development Fund in support of affordable and accessible child care. The division testified that increased funding would support 175 working families and 300 children, serve 50 child care providers, and support over \$41,846 for quality educational programs throughout the state.

DP 20016 - Child Care FPI, Market Rate, Caseload Increase - The bill adds \$4.2 million general fund for the Early Childhood Services Bureau to maintain child care reimbursement rates for parents at the 75th percentile of the annual market rate survey, to maintain eligibility for the Best Beginnings Child Care scholarship program at 150 percent of the current federal poverty level (FPL), and support a 4 percent case load increase for low income working parents.

The following information is provided so that the legislature can consider various performance management principles when examining this proposal. It is as submitted by the agency, with editing by LFD staff as necessary for brevity and/or clarity.

Justification: Funding helps low-income families pay for child care while they work. As families earn more, they contribute more to the cost of care until eventually they are responsible for the entire cost. Although the upper limit of the sliding fee scale is set at 150 percent of FPL, 66 percent of the families receiving subsidies are at or below the poverty threshold. The Child Care and Development Fund mandates that low-income families have equal access to the same high quality child care as their more affluent contemporaries. The child care scholarship is often the primary benefit that allows these families to gain true economic self-sufficiency.

Goals:

- Maintain accessible child care reimbursement rates at the 75th percentile of the Market Rate
- Provide eligibility at 150 percent of poverty annually adjusting the program eligibility levels to the current FPL
- Maintain accessible, affordable child care and a child care scholarship program while avoiding a waiting list

Performance Criteria:

- All families pay a co-payment to their child care provider, at an average of 3.5 percent of their income
- An estimated 5,570 unduplicated families will be in the work force each year because they receive child care
- An estimated 95 teen parents will be supported through scholarship assistance as they work to complete high school or achieve a GED

Tracking of the performance criteria occurs on many levels through DPHHS data management systems, and is extracted to prepare federal and state monitoring reports, reviewed by agency officials and federal agencies.

Milestones and Risks:

- Conduct a Market Rate Survey each June in light of the 75th percentile of the respective regional rates
- Examine the Federal Poverty Index in July of each year and make appropriate adjustments in the fee scale
- Update administrative rules each year to support these specific documents and conduct training
- Update and submit the CCDF state plan every two years
- Adjustments to the CCUBS automated system will occur in accord with new rates and eligibility during implementation in June and July

DP 20019 - Food Stamp Benefits - The bill provides \$32.6 million of federal revenue authority for the biennium to fund the anticipated caseload and poverty level adjustments for food stamp benefits. The increased funding supports an additional annual average of 2,686 cases per month above the base caseload of 35,450 for SFY 2008 and 4,769 cases per month for SFY 2009. The measurements will be recorded monthly and included in quarterly or annual required reports.

New Proposals

New Proposals	-----Fiscal 2008-----					-----Fiscal 2009-----					
	Program	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
DP 20001 - Energy Assistance/Conservation (Biennial/OTO)	02	0.00	0	0	1,600,000	1,600,000	0.00	0	0	0	0
DP 20002 - Tri-state Housing Grant for People with AIDS (Bien	02	0.00	0	0	966,000	966,000	0.00	0	0	0	0
DP 20004 - Homeless Management Information Syst (HMIS) Grant	02	0.00	0	0	66,980	66,980	0.00	0	0	66,980	66,980
DP 20006 - Childcare / Working Caretaker Relative (Rstr/OTO)	02	0.00	0	0	683,784	683,784	0.00	0	0	683,784	683,784
DP 20011 - Ombudsman - Warm Hearts/Homes - (Restricted/ OTO)	02	0.00	300,000	0	0	300,000	0.00	300,000	0	0	300,000
DP 20020 - TANF Cash Benefit Increase	02	0.00	0	0	1,377,791	1,377,791	0.00	0	0	1,377,791	1,377,791
DP 20022 - Individual Development Account (Res./Bien/OTO)	02	0.00	200,000	0	0	200,000	0.00	200,000	0	0	200,000
DP 20023 - Restructuring Blackfeet Tribal Plan	02	0.00	0	0	1,135,170	1,135,170	0.00	0	0	1,135,170	1,135,170
DP 20907 - Child Care Funding Swap for PSF	02	0.00	(99,983)	99,983	0	0	0.00	(104,543)	104,543	0	0
DP 20908 - Low Income Energy Assist. Prgm (Biennial/OTO)	02	0.00	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000	0.00	0	0	0	0
DP 20909 - Funding the Base for IHSB Admin. Correctly	02	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	19,663	0	(19,663)	0
Total		0.00	\$1,400,017	\$99,983	\$5,829,725	\$7,329,725	0.00	\$415,120	\$104,543	\$3,244,062	\$3,763,725

DP 20001 - Energy Assistance/Conservation (Biennial/OTO) - The includes a one-time-only, biennial appropriation of \$1,600,000 to use the energy conservation and energy assistance federal special revenue accounts for low-income energy assistance or low-income weatherization. This appropriation was contingent upon passage and approval of HB 41, which changes 90-4-215, MCA to allow the funds to be spent immediately upon signing. HB 41 has been signed by the governor.

The 1987 Legislature (HB 621) established the federal special revenue account to accept the energy conservation and energy assistance funds when the department received cash distributions. However, the enabling legislation contained a clause restricting the use of the principal in the funds to a time when either weatherization or energy assistance grants fall below the 1987 funding levels of \$11,035,480. The funds have not been used because both the DOE and LIEAP grants have been larger than in 1987. Since the implementation of the fund, the legislature has provided authority for the division to use the fund if the restriction was met. The 2005 Legislature provided authority of \$1.45 million for FY 2007 that may now be spent. There is \$1.5 million in the combined accounts.

DP 20002 - Tri-state Housing Grant for People with AIDS (Bien - The bill appropriates \$966,000 federal funds for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Tri State HELP (Housing Environments for Living Positively) Plus Grant received from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This grant is the second HOPWA grant received by DPHHS.

DP 20004 - Homeless Management Information Syst (HMIS) Grant - The bill adds \$66,980 of federal authority per year for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) grant originally received in June of 2004 from HUD. The initial grant was to help the state meet a federal mandate requiring recipients of federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funding to use an information system for data collection. Agencies required to use the system include the Human Resource Development Councils (HRDC's) and some emergency shelter facilities under their direction. The federal goal is to have all statewide providers of homeless services use the HMIS system for tracking and reporting. All permanent supportive housing facilities are required to use the HMIS system, and other agencies are encouraged to use it. Data from the system would be used to provide reports to HUD and the state.

DP 20006 - Childcare / Working Caretaker Relative (Rstr/OTO) - The bill adds a \$1.4 million restricted, one-time-only appropriation in federal TANF funding authority for the 2009 biennium to provide child care for working caretaker relatives of children eligible for the TANF child-only grant.

The bill addresses the use of TANF block grant funds in the context of regulations governing the Child Care Development Fund, which require use of the income of the grandparent/caretaker when determining eligibility for child care assistance thereby eliminating assistance to many low-income, working grandparents that are most in need of daycare services for their grandchildren.

There is language in the bill requesting that the division track the number of grandparents and grandchildren served by the appropriation, their area of residence, and the dollar amount of services received.

The following information is provided so that the legislature can consider various performance management principles when examining this proposal. It is as submitted by the agency, with editing by LFD staff as necessary for brevity and/or clarity.

Justification: There are approximately 130-150 child-only cases fitting this situation. Of these, it is estimated that 56 families have grandparents/caretakers working and in need of child care assistance. The cost of child care would be \$25 per day for infants and \$22 per day for children aged 2 and above. If these 56 families have 2 children in each family, one infant and one older child, the approximate cost of serving these families would be \$56,982 per month based upon 4.33 weeks in a month.

Goals: 1) To stabilize the lives of children who are unable to be cared for by their parents, and to prevent these children from entering the child welfare system; and 2) to provide TANF-funded child care to approximately 56-60 working caretaker relatives and allow them to continue employment while caring for these children.

Performance Criteria: The Public Assistance Bureau, in conjunction with the Early Childhood Services Bureau, will structure the eligibility requirements and payment mechanism for approving childcare for TANF-eligible children with employed caretaker relatives and provide information to those potentially eligible. This proposal may decrease the number of grandparents requesting to be licensed as foster homes although it may be difficult to measure whether or not this service is the sole reason for that decrease. Specifically, the outcomes measured would be whether or not the policy and structure is in place, number of employed caretaker relative families using the childcare services, and benefits to the family experienced through the availability of the childcare services.

Milestones:

May-June 2007 – Policy and procedures developed for working caretaker relative childcare program

June 2007 – Notification of potentially eligible working caretaker relatives

July 2007 – Working caretaker relative childcare program begins

Monthly – Monitor number of working relative caretakers with childcare benefits

Quarterly - Monitor number of foster care licensing and placements for grandparents

January 2008 – Survey working caretaker relative childcare users

DP 20011 - Ombudsman - Warm Hearts/Homes - (Restricted/ OTO) - The bill adds a one-time-only, restricted general fund appropriation of \$600,000 over the biennium for the Energy Ombudsman program, which was initiated by the 2005 Legislature. Funding allows human resource development councils (HRDC's) to aid people needing emergency energy assistance, and help with installation and low-cost/no-cost weatherization materials for the Warm Hearts/Warm Homes program.

The following information is provided so that the legislature can consider various performance management principles when examining this proposal. It is as submitted by the agency, with editing by LFD staff as necessary for brevity and/or clarity.

Justification: The division used the 2005 legislative appropriation by dividing funds evenly among the state's HRDCs to: 1) encourage participation in LIEAP, Energy Share, USB, and other emergency energy assistance programs; 2) move low-income households toward energy self-sufficiency; 3) address energy related emergencies; and 4) augment the Warm Hearts in Warm Homes Program that focused on low cost energy conservation measures to needy LIEAP households that would not receive full-fledged weatherization. While 605 homes were assisted, the majority of recipient households indicated a need for Energy Ombudsman services. Future Energy Ombudsman activities would expand the pool of trained volunteers involved in installing energy conservation measures, providing outreach to un-served households. General Fund is requested because federal funding for LIEAP and weatherization assistance is insufficient to provide the proposed case management and referral services.

Other Warm Hearts in Warm Homes services to be offered low-income households will include energy education, Montana property and income tax credit information, reverse annuity mortgage information, energy assistance, federal earned income tax credit information, budget counseling, furnace safety inspections; and referral to other energy, aging, nutritional, housing, child care, health care, educational, and emergency service programs.

Goals and Performance Criteria: The goal is to continue the work started with the 2005 appropriation by: 1) Providing case management and referral services to at least 500 low-income households; 2) supporting Montana Conservation Corp (MCC) efforts to install low-cost energy conservation measures in 1,843 low-income homes per year; 3) expanding the pool of Warm Hearts in Warm Homes volunteer installers to a level sufficient to provide a minimum of 200 additional low-income households low-cost energy conservation measures; 4) providing volunteer installers sufficient to expand the number of homes served by 5 percent annually. The performance criteria of the program would be monitored and measured by tracking referrals, households served, services provided to households served, and expenditures. This information would be tracked using quarterly reports from subcontractors, data from the LIEAP computer system, and the contracts management subsystem.

Milestones: Key activities shall be completed as follows:

- Recruiting and training Conservation Corp and other volunteers (July-August)
- Provision of outreach services (September – June)
- Provision of case management and referral services (September – June)

Risk: If the proposal is not adopted, LIEAP households will not receive the services outlined above.

DP 20020 - TANF Cash Benefit Increase - The bill provides \$2.8 million for the biennium of federal authority to increase TANF cash benefits. The increase will raise the cash benefit standard from 33 percent of the 2005 federal poverty level to 33 percent of the estimated 2007 federal poverty level.

DP 20022 - Individual Development Account (Res./Bien/OTO) - The bill includes a restricted, one-time-only, biennial appropriation of \$0.4 million general fund to provide non-federal cash match for individual development accounts (IDA's) established through the Family Assets for Independence (AFI) program.

The following information is provided so that the legislature can consider various performance management principles when examining this proposal. It is as submitted by the agency, with editing by LFD staff as necessary for brevity and/or clarity.

Justification: The projects assist low-income people to become economically self-sufficient by teaching them about economic and consumer issues and enabling them to establish matched savings accounts, in order to save for a first home, a business, or higher education. Depending on the size of the federal grants secured and the number of IDA projects administered, up to four hundred low-income recipients could benefit from the matching funds provided.

Goals: The IDA/AFI goal is to empower individuals and families to move up and out of poverty. In Montana, non-profit community based organizations would be encouraged to apply for the federal grants and administer the projects, using this funding as the required non-federal cash match for approved savings accounts. The target recipients will have

demonstrated qualifications by having stable housing, health, employment, and transportation and have made or are willing to make the commitment to participate voluntarily in personal, financial and economic growth through the IDA/AFI project.

DP 20023 - Restructuring Blackfeet Tribal Plan - The bill provides \$2.3 million federal authority for the 2009 biennium to support the restructuring of the Blackfeet Tribal TANF plan.

To maintain solvency in its TANF plan the Blackfeet Tribe negotiated a new TANF contract with the federal government re-defining the population to be served by the Blackfeet Tribe as those "eligible families that include all enrolled Blackfeet members in the assistance unit". The population not served by the Tribal plan would be served by the state TANF program. The estimated caseload increase to the state is 293. The estimated annual cost to the TANF block grant is \$1.5 million based upon an estimated benefit level of \$430 per month as calculated at 33 percent of the 2007 federal poverty level. (The rate increase proposed in DP 20020)

This funding would also allow the state to contract back with the Blackfeet tribe for the WoRC contract. Of the 293 new cases, it is estimated that 196 cases would participate in work activities. The estimated annual cost of the WorC contract for 196 families would be \$450,800.

Under the modified plan the Blackfeet would not retain the associated general fund/MOE. The department retains \$0.8 million general fund in the base, resulting in a request of \$1.1 million each year rather than the total \$1.9 million.

DP 20907 - Child Care Funding Swap for PSF - The bill includes a decrease to the general fund by \$99,983 in SFY 2008 and \$104,583 SFY 2009 with like increases in the state special revenue Prevention and Stabilization Fund (PSF). The funding switch maintains the total authority of \$1,033,312 for Child Care for each year of the biennium. The prevention and stabilization fund receives revenue from the utilization fee on resident bed days at institutions. It is estimated that there will be enough state special revenue from the fees to reduce general fund.

DP 20908 - Low Income Energy Assist. Prgm (Biennial/OTO) - The bill adds biennial, one-time-only authority for \$1 million general fund for low-income energy assistance benefits throughout the state including all Tribal Reservations.

According to federal law, a portion of the state allocation for LIEAP assistance must be set aside for use by Tribes. Montana negotiated a ratio of 17.4806 for the Tribal allocation, which is 300 percent higher than the federal requirement. Using this rate, Tribes would receive \$174,806 of the appropriation and the state would receive \$825,194. The annual increased benefit would be \$73 per household.

DP 20909 - Funding the Base for IHSB Admin. Correctly - The bill includes a \$19,663 base budget correction for the FY 2009 Intergovernmental Human Services Bureau, which moved funds that were inadvertently included in the division's federal fund into the general fund to ensure the proper state match of the Emergency Food Assistance and Aging Food Services grants serving the Low Income Energy Assistance Program. Without the general fund match the federal funds attached to these grants cannot be spent.

Language

"If House Bill No. 41 is not passed and approved, funding in Human and Community Services Division is reduced by a total of \$1,600,000 in federal special revenue.

Funding for Child Care for Working Caretaker Relatives may be expended only by the human and community services division for child care assistance for working grandparents or caretaker relatives providing care for children in place of their parents.

Funding for the Work Training Program includes \$504,436 of TANF block grant funds each year of the biennium. Funds may be expended only by TANF work contractors to support additional employment and training activities, including antipoverty efforts that enhance the work capacity of TANF recipients.

Included in Human and Community Services Division/Reporting is \$200 in general fund money each year for a semiannual report to the legislative finance committee, the children, families, health, and human services interim committee, and members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on health and human services for the following:

- (1) progress toward the goals presented to the joint appropriations subcommittee on health and human services in the division's final template; and
- (2) attainment of measurable objectives as outlined in the division final template presented to the joint appropriations subcommittee on health and human services.

If the reports are not received by the legislative finance committee by December 31, 2007, and June 30, 2008, The fiscal year 2009 general fund appropriation is reduced by \$200.

Ombudsman Funding-Warm Hearts/Warm Homes may be expended only for activities related to the ombudsman function.

Funding for Individual Development Account (IDA) may be expended only as required non-federal match for individual development savings accounts (IDAs). Included in this appropriation is funding for a report to the legislative finance committee and the children, families, health, and human services interim committee at each meeting from October 2007 through December 2009 on the goals, objectives and measurements established for the program, the number of savings accounts established, the value of the accounts, and the location of the account holder."